Division of Geosciences and Civil Engineering	Research field	Urban and Regional Planning	Lab. ID GC24
Laboratory web site	https://urban-regional-planning-lab-kanazawa-u.studio.site/english		
Passarch subjects			

Urban and Regional Planning Lab researches urban planning, urban design, and community development—in other words, research aimed at creating and preserving better urban and regional environments and preserving them. To achieve this, we aim to read accurately and deeply understand the relationships between humans, society, and urban spaces and those between humans, society, and nature, which vary by city, region, and district. Building on this understanding, we seek to uncover the mechanisms of urban spaces and explore design methods that contribute to developing sustainable urban planning techniques suited to the needs of a low–growth era. Please note that practical design activities are not considered part of the research scope.

Our research targets include:

Identifying the characteristics of urban spaces and the phenomena that occur within them.

Addressing the issues of systems (regulations and projects) that control urban and regional spaces.

Developing methods to create visions for cities' future with diverse stakeholders' participation.

Our commitment to interdisciplinary research extends beyond the field of engineering, delving into the interconnected realms of environment, society, culture, and economics.

Given the interdisciplinary nature of "urban planning" (where development, landscape, transportation, etc., cannot be addressed separately), we aim to engage with various fields without over-specifying our focus. This approach helps us acquire insights that contribute to advancing technologies that can be implemented in actual urban spaces.

Master/Doctor course: Education policy, curriculum, typical activity in the laboratory

ur students' research themes reflect the interdisciplinary nature of urban planning. We do not over-specify the academic field but rather determine themes based on the student's awareness of issues, interests, the importance of the research topic, and the feasibility of conducting the research. However, it's important to note that there are areas where the faculty's ability to provide guidance is stronger or weaker.

Vital areas: urban planning systems, land-use planning, suburban residential redevelopment, park and green space planning, landscape planning, public space design, rural planning

Moderate areas: urban development projects and urban regeneration, disaster prevention and recovery

Weaker areas: transportation planning, decarbonized cities, urban analysis

Specific activities include:

Regular seminars where members present their progress (approximately once a month).

Intensive discussions and work on surveys and analysis "working days" (several times a month).

Fieldwork (surveys and on-site talks).

Individual research activities.

Additionally, to enhance practical skills, students are encouraged to participate in projects in collaboration with the government and private sectors and urban planning competitions. This hands-on experience will equip you with the necessary skills and confidence to tackle real-world urban planning challenges.

Daily life in the laboratory, etc.

Since the lab was newly established in 2024, we are gradually building its style and culture.

Message or comments by the laboratory faculty staffs

In this lab, we value sharing and discussing lab members' diverse themes and insights. Our goal is for students to acquire the ability to implement technologies in urban spaces and design the connection points between technology and the society that accepts it (systems, communities, lifestyles), thus cultivating their abilities as planners. In addition to research supervision, I aim to develop students with strong practical skills through my experience as a certified urban planner (landscape and urban design sectors), my roles as a former private urban planning consultant, and my participation in various governmental committees.

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